

## Henry Irving Boernstein

( - 24 Nov 1940)

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**Boernstein, Henry Irving.** On Sunday, November 24, 1940, Henry Irving Boernstein, son of Ralph A. and Myra D. Boernstein, of Leghorn, Italy. Funeral services at Gawler's Chapel, 1750 Pennsylvania avenue nw., on Tuesday, November 26, at 2 p.m. Interment Congressional Cemetery.

*The Washington Post, November 25, 1940, p. 1*

### **Student, 18, Declared Suicide**

#### **Body of Consular Aide's Son Found Under Klinge Bridge**

The body of 18-year-old Henry Boernstein, Woodrow Wilson High School senior and son of Ralph A. Boernstein, of the American Consular Service in Italy, was found at 3:15 a.m. yesterday under the 80-foot span of Klinge Bridge.



**BOERNSTEIN**

The discovery was made by a park policeman 35 minutes after Boernstein had, according to police, been driven back to his home at 5824 Chevy Chase Parkway by friends who had spent the evening with him in Maryland.

He had resided for the last 15 months in the home of his uncle, Ivan Strasburger, 5824 Chevy Chase Parkway. Neither the uncle nor members of his family could ascribe any reason why Boernstein might have wished to take his life.

The family said the youth was given \$1.50 early last night and had gone to a movie before going out again later with his friends.

Strasburger, who is manager of the Chamberlin Metal Weather Strip Co., Inc. said that Boernstein was a member of the 260th Coast Artillery Regiment, District National guard, and had looked forward to going to camp.

A sufferer from asthma, the youth had thought that a change from the Washington climate would improve his condition, he said.

His parents and a brother, Robert, 7, now reside in Leghorn, Italy.

Boernstein was born in Rome and his parents returned there in August 1939, after the consular officer had completed a tour of four years' duty in Washington and about two years in Montreal. Henry was left here in order to continue his American education.

The body was found by Park Policeman George R. Shibley while cruising in a scout car. It was lying in the road under the bridge. Coroner Magruder MacDonald issued a certificate of suicide.

A 25-year-old well-dressed woman yesterday was prevented from leaping from the Calvert Street Bridge by three passersby, according to the police. All identification marks were found to have been removed from her effects.

She was seized on the bridge rail, police said, by Robert W. Berberick, 2011 Klinge Road Northwest; G.W. Elliott, 1736 G Street Northwest, and Policeman W.J. Smith, 2630 Garfield Street Northwest. Police removed her to Gallinger Hospital.